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Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102(a)

1. The Examiner's rejection of Claims 7-9 and 19-24 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Kanno et al., US Patent No. 6,526,424, has been studied and the Applicant has amended independent Claim 7, from which Claims 8-9 depend, and Claim 19 from which Claims 20-24 depend. The Applicant submits that Kanno et al. does not anticipate the presently amended Claims 7-9 and 19-24. The Applicant has amended Claim 7 from which Claims 8-9 depend and Claim 19 from which Claims 20-24 depend to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant has amended these two claims in accordance with the Examiner's guidance in the "Response to Arguments" in the latest Office Action. The Applicant has amended the last paragraph of Claims 7, 16, and 19 to recite "a record hiding and unhiding means for selecting at least one but not all of said records to be hidden and unhidden from display on said screen displayed by said graphical user interface and unselected ones of said groups remain displayed by said graphical user interface."

The Examiner states that as in Claims 7 and 19, Kanno et al. teaches hiding means for selecting a group or record to be hidden from display on the GUI and points to the collapsing groups in Figures 1 and 16A but Kanno et al. doesn't disclose a record hiding and unhiding means for selecting at least one but not all of said records to be hidden and unhidden from display on said screen displayed by said graphical user interface and unselected ones of said groups remain displayed by said graphical user interface. This clearly distinguishes Claims 7 and 19 from Kanno et al. The Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference does not disclose or anticipate this element in the rejected Claims.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments and remarks above overcome the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-9 and 19-24 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Kanno et al., US Patent No. 6,526,424 and that Claims 7-9 and Claims 19-24 are in condition for allowance.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The Examiner's rejection of Claims 10-18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanno et al. US Patent No. 6,526,424 in view of Khan, US Patent No. 6,546,393, has been carefully studied and the Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner because there is an absence of features of the presently claimed invention in the cited references and there is not even a suggestion in the cited references that would lead one skilled in the art to combine the Kanno et al. and Khan references.

The present invention and the Kanno et al. patent include a database means for storing URL links in a database on the end-user computer. Khan discloses a directory of bookmarks that resides not on an end-user computer but rather on an online bookmark management server (see column 11, line 40 - column 12, line 4). There is no indication whatsoever in Khan that this is a searchable database. The Applicant refers the Examiner to the Abstract in Khan which states:

"A system, method and article of manufacture are provided for generating a prioritized network site directory. A link to a site on a network is generated. The site is then added to a site directory that includes a set of categories. The site is categorized into one of the categories of the site directory. The site is also ranked in the category. Sub-categories may also be created into which the site is categorized under one of the categories of the site directory. The site may additionally be ranked in the category according to: the number of generated links to the site, the frequency that the site is accessed by selection of the generated links, and/or polling.. This teaches contrary to the purpose and teachings of the present invention and against the teaching of the Kanno et al. patent."

The Abstract clearly does not indicate a searchable database. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's contention that Khan teaches a URL database with corresponding user interface for accessing stored URL sites in

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groups similar to that of Kanno et al. and that Khan further teaches searching means for searching a displayed field (Figure 21 and corresponding text). It appears that FIG. 21 illustrates that the directory's search feature searches bookmarks' in an online account as stated in the BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS of the Khan patent as shown below:

"FIG. 21 illustrates a dialog box for a search feature for keyword searching of bookmarks in a user's online bookmark account in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;"

It would appear from the paragraphs found in column 20, line 39 through column 21, line 54 that the Kahn patent discloses searching the bookmarks on the internet and searching the "search areas" of the internet sites themselves with keywords. It appears that Kahn discloses searching either Site Title 2108, Site Summary 2110, Site URL 2112, or All Three 2114 search areas of the URLs at the internet sites and nothing stored in a database or directory. In particular, the Applicant refers the Examiner to the following paragraphs in the above mentioned columns:

"Managing Bookmarks

The present invention may also provide a user with functions to help the user manage their account. A user may "Sort" their links, "Search" their bookmarks for keywords, and/or "Clean Up" their user account by removing stale and duplicate links.

Search

A user may search through their bookmarks for keywords. In an embodiment of the present invention, this may be accomplished by first clicking on the "Search" button 710 on the left menu bar (see FIG. 7) so that a search dialog box 2100 is displayed as depicted in FIG. 21. A keyword(s) may then be entered in the keyword box 2102 and then search area may be chosen for those words by clicking on the down arrow 2104 next to "Search the" 2106 and selecting either Site

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Title 2108, Site Summary 2110, Site URL 2112, or All Three 2114. A user may also select whether they want to search for links that contain ALL of the keywords or for links that contain ANY of the keywords. To execute the search, the Search Bookmarks button 2116 is then selected."

The present invention also includes the database having records and each of said records having at least three fields relating to a single URL link which is stored in a first field. The present invention further includes a second field used to store an editable URL title, and a third field is used to store user entered notes, and a means for searching on at least one term in a displayed one of the fields. Khan does not teach a searching means for searching a displayed field of a record in the database as the Examiner states is shown in Figure 21 and corresponding text of Khan. The Khan patent teaches searching through their bookmarks for "keywords" in Site Title 2108, Site Summary 2110, Site URL 2112, or All Three 2114. These elements are found at the URL's of each site not in a database located on an end user computer and having records in the three fields as found in the present Claims 10-18. Kahn does not teach editable fields either.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kanno et al. and Khan before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the URL database with fields for URL, title, and user comments and interface for controlling this database as taught by Kanno et al. to include the searching means of Khan, in order to obtain a way to search within the fields of the URL database for desired entries because Khan teaches searching the sites of the URLs and does not teach searching a database of URLs on an end user computer at claimed in the rejected Claims. One would not have been motivated to make such a combination because Khan teaches a very inefficient way to find desired bookmarks by searching URL's on the internet instead of an extensive database. Furthermore, since Kanno teaches fields in a database and Kahn teaches searching not a database but

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rather internet sites or bookmarks, the Applicant submits that it would appear to one skilled in the art that Kahn teaches away from both Kanno and the claims of the present application.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection of Claims 10-18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanno et al., US Patent No. 6,526,424 in view of Khan, US Patent No. 6,546,393, has been overcome by the amendments and remarks above.

3. The Examiner's rejection of Claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanno et al., US Patent No. 6,526,424 in view of Mohler, US Patent No. 6,601,173, has been carefully studied and the Applicant submits that Claim 25 is in condition for allowance because Claim 19 from which Claim 25 depends has been amended to overcome the above noted 35 U.S.C. 102(a) rejection as regards Claim 19.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection of Claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanno et al., US Patent No. 6,526,424 in view of Mohler, US Patent No. 6,601,173, has been overcome by the amendments and remarks above.

4. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that all of the Examiner's rejections of Claims 7-25 have been overcome by the amendments and remarks above and requests that Claims 7-25 be passed on to issue.


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